

The New Imperial Beach Library Frequently Asked Questions - FAQs

The Imperial Beach Library has been a vital gathering spot for the community since its establishment in 1915. Groundbreaking for the new, 12,000 square foot library, connecting with a remodeled 2,000 square foot Marina Vista Community Center meeting room, is estimated to be in late 2014, with a tentative opening date of winter 2016. It will offer a host of services that empower and educate the community including free access to a network of 42 million books, DVD movies, and music CDs.

How will the new library's architect and contractor be chosen?

The new library will be built using the Design-Build model. The Design-Build Request for Statement of Qualifications will be released in early 2014, and the three highest ranking submittals will go on to the second part of the process, the Request for Proposals. The best value Design-/Build proposal will be awarded the contract in accordance with the provisions of the Public Contract Code.

How is the project being funded?

The project is funded by the County of San Diego.

When is the groundbreaking of the new Imperial Beach Library?

The tentative groundbreaking date is late 2014 or early 2015.

When is the grand opening of the new Imperial Beach Library?

Early plans outline an opening in the winter of 2016.

Where is the new library located?

The new library will be at the same location as the current facility – 810 Imperial Beach Blvd.

How big is the new library?

The new library will be approximately 14,000 square feet total, which is more than twice the size of the current facility and encompasses the existing community room which will be remodeled.

Will adequate parking be provided?

Yes, a parking plan is included in planning of the construction project.

What are some of the features of the new library?

- A Family Place featuring new books for kids and space for storytimes and crafts
- A Teen Space that will feature new books and study spaces, plus be a fun place to hang out after school
- Comfortable lounge seating throughout the building

- Quiet study rooms for individuals and small groups
- Access to a large community room for big events and meetings
- Friends of the Library bookstore

What are some of the technological features of the new library?

- Public internet computers that are available whenever the library is open
- Free wireless internet access for laptop users
- Automated book check-out, giving customers the ability to check out their favorite titles quickly and efficiently

Will there be input from the community?

SDCL has a history of developing new libraries that represent the spirit and culture of the communities they serve. Multiple community meetings have been held regarding this project, and additional community forums will be held as this project moves forward. Check with branch staff for details on upcoming forums.

How else can I be involved?

The Friends of the Imperial Beach Library are working hard to raise money for the new library's furniture, fixtures, and equipment, plus an Opening Day Collection (new books, movies, and music CDs) and future programs. A donation to the Friends can help build the best library possible for the Imperial Beach community.

Have there been other large-scale library construction projects like this recently?

Yes, SDCL has built 9 new libraries in the past 8 ½ years. We partner with the public, private, and non-profit sectors in order to develop innovative and sustainable branch libraries. SDCL builds award-winning libraries, including a recent People's Choice Orchid Award from the San Diego Architectural Foundation for the Fallbrook Library and multiple building features in *Library Journal* and *American Libraries* magazine.